

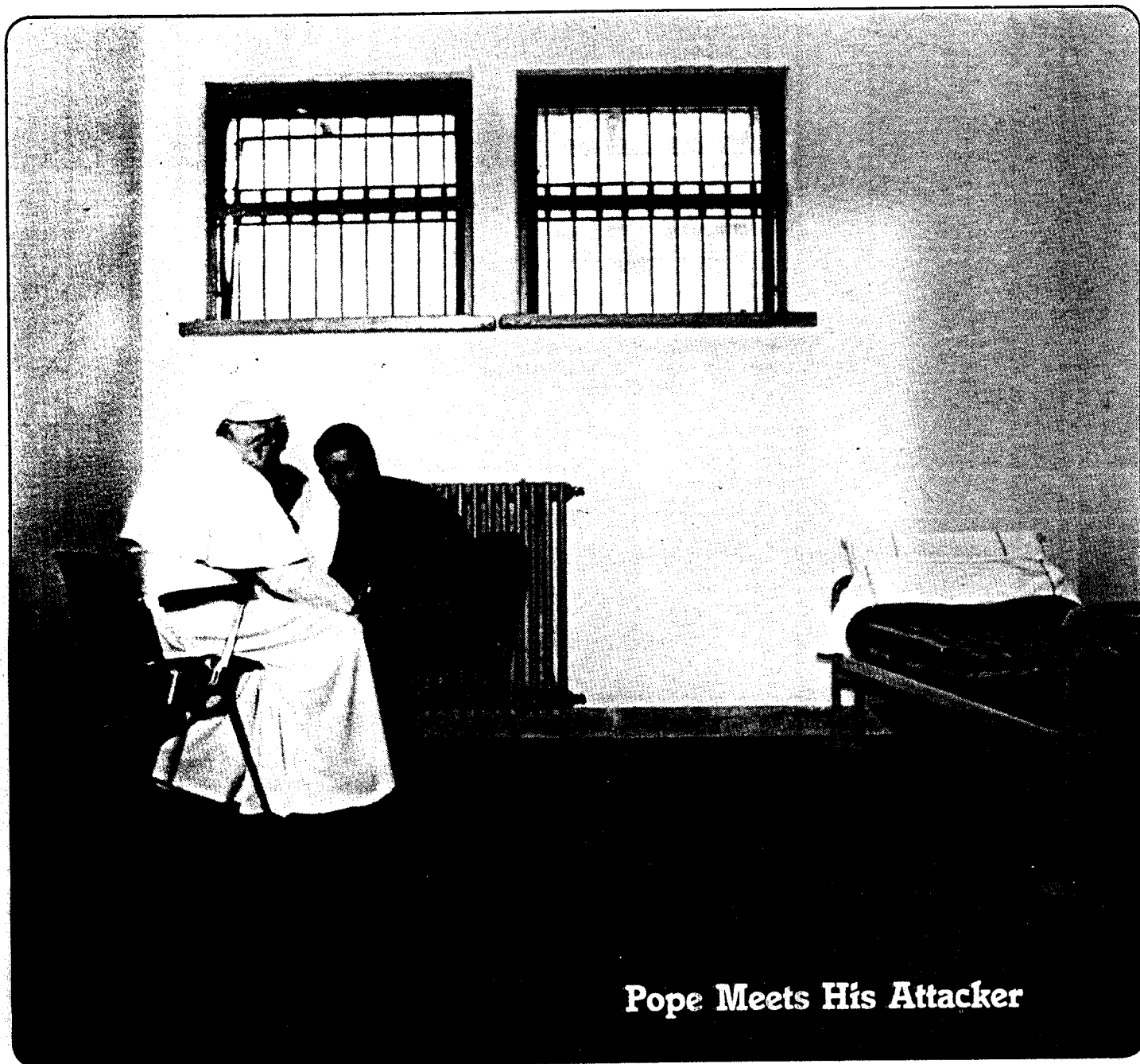
# Covert Action

## INFORMATION BULLETIN

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**Disconnecting the "Bulgarian Connection"**



**Pope Meets His Attacker**

# Editorial

For the first time *CAIB* devotes an entire edition of the magazine to one issue. "The Bulgarian Connection Revisited" is the compelling analysis of a massive western disinformation campaign by rightwing government and intelligence officials and their propagandists, in this country and in Italy. It is a campaign which attempts the transsubstantiation of the Turkish fascist who shot Pope Paul II into an agent of Bulgaria, and by extension the Soviet Union. The truth being inconvenient for these corrupt ideologues, they began, with the would-be assassin imprisoned and under their control, to fabricate a case against Bulgaria. For the past three years they have stood the facts on their head, appealing to religious emotions by manipulating the world's anger about the act against the Soviet Union, easily convincing the supine western media that the incident was not what it clearly appeared to be, but the very opposite. More recently, however, this fiction has begun to crumble, and all but the ideologically fossilized realize they have been duped.

The ups and downs of the "Bulgarian Connection" present a case study in disinformation under the Reagan administration as the authors of this article unravel every strand of the fabric of lies woven by the likes of Claire Sterling, Michael Ledeen, and Paul Henze. These hacks we accuse of deliberate lies, misstatements, and distortions, designed not to elicit the truth but to pervert it. That they have become the "experts," writing "authoritative" books on the subject, parading their wares before congressional committees, fabricating front-page byline stories in establishment papers like the *New York Times*, and frequently starring in late-night talk shows, bespeaks the sad state of the media in the West today. We believe the information presented here will help to expose the Bulgarian Connection boosters for what they are—paranoid, dishonest demagogues, steeped in intelligence connections, pretending to be impartial journalists and commentators.

We hope in addition this article will serve to illuminate public opinion about the Italian judiciary and police—the sole cus-

todians of the sly and conniving Mehmet Ali Agca. For they too have perverted the truth; engaged as they have been for nearly four years in suppressing evidence which confirms the fascist origins of the assassination attempt and fabricating the tissue of lies which passes for the Bulgarian Connection. Judge Ilario Martella, the presiding magistrate, is shown to be as partial as the rest of the disinformationists, and we accuse him of witting participation in this shabby conspiracy to defraud the world.

By devoting this issue to a single subject—a case which is scheduled to come to trial this spring—we do not mean to ignore the dangerous situation in Central America. The Reagan administration is hell bent on violating every standard of international law and decency in its frustrated desire to make the government of Nicaragua say "uncle," and in its contemptuous refusals to discuss better relations with Cuba and other socialist countries, or to abide by the rulings of the World Court.

In the next issue of *CAIB* we will return to these concerns; in addition we will be publishing a series of articles on infiltration of the left by government provocateurs, and on torture as a growing means of bolstering U.S.-supported dictatorships, both tactics of the CIA and their surrogates which are on the increase around the world in startling proportions.

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